



NEWS RELEASE

COUNCIL PRESIDENT SCOTT PETERS

First District

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For Immediate Release

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Peters and Sanders Propose Budget Authority Compromise

SAN DIEGO – Council President Scott Peters and Mayor Jerry Sanders today announced a proposal to more clearly define the roles of the Mayor and City Council in making mid-year budget adjustments.

The proposed amendment to the Fiscal Year 2007 Appropriations Ordinance would require the Mayor to bring any department cut equaling the lesser of 10% or \$4 million before the City Council for approval. It would also require that the elimination of any program or service affecting the community be publicly noticed by the City Clerk.

“My goal was to develop a workable model which gives the Mayor the ability to make changes to the adopted budget as he deems necessary, within certain spending limits,” Peters said. “This proposal gives the Council a voice in major changes and allows us to monitor the way those changes are made, how they affect service levels delivered to the public, and make adjustments as needed.”

The City Council will consider the proposed ordinance on March 19, 2007. If approved, it would replace the ordinance passed on a 5-3 vote by the Council on February 6.

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Proposed Amendment to the 2006-2007 Appropriations Ordinance

Ordinance 2007-13, an ordinance adopting the Annual Budget for Fiscal Year 2006-2007 and appropriating the necessary money to operate the City of San Diego for said fiscal year is amended as follows:

Section 14 Mayoral authority to make changes to the adopted budget shall be limited as follows:

1. Budgetary control shall be at the department level by Fund as approved in the Appropriation Ordinance and adopted by the City Council (Attachment 1).
2. Salary savings cannot be used to cover non-personnel expenses.
3. Any funding increases above the amount included in the Appropriations Ordinance require an amendment to the Appropriations Ordinance by the City Council.
4. Any cumulative reduction in spending resulting from Mayoral action of an amount of 10% or \$4 million, whichever is less, in a particular department identified in the Appropriations Ordinance will require an amendment to the Appropriations Ordinance by the City Council. This may be triggered by either the first budget adjustment that meets this threshold or a later budget adjustment that has the cumulative affect of exceeding this threshold.
5. Immediately upon elimination of any program or service affecting the community, not requiring an amendment to the Appropriations Ordinance as described above, the Mayor shall inform the City Council and City Clerk by providing a memo fully describing the change, any resulting service impact and the corresponding fiscal impact. The Clerk shall then include such notification on the next available council docket following receipt of the notice from the Mayor.
6. Money and/or positions moved between departments will require City Council approval.